## Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, line 8, please replace the first paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a divisional application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/895,612, filed July 16, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,307,868, which ~~This application~~ is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/684,243, filed July 19, 1996, invented by Shlomo Rakib and Yehuda Azenkot which was a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/588,650, filed January 19, 1996, invented by Shlomo Rakib and Yehuda Azenkot, which was a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 08/519,630, filed Aug. 25, 1995, invented by Shlomo Rakib and Yehuda Azenkot, now U.S. Patent No. 5,768,269, issued June 16, 1998, the contents of all of which are hereby incorporated by reference. This application is also a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application entitled LOWER OVERHEAD METHOD FOR DATA TRANSMISSION USING ATM AND SCDMA OVER HYBRID FIBER COAX CABLE PLANT, Serial No. 08/760,412, filed December 4, 1996, invented by Amir Fuhrmann, Shlomo Rakib and Yehuda Azenkot, now co-pending, the entirety of which is hereby incorporated by reference.